Appl. No. 10/627,514

Amdt. Dated March 14, 2005

Reply to Office Action of October 14, 2004

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner for acknowledging receipt of foreign priority documents,

Japanese Application No.s JP2002-220681 and JP2002-257474, that have been submitted

pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 119 and/or PCT Rule 17.2(a).

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 6 and 7. Applicants have amended claim 6 solely to improve the language of the claim, and have amended claim 7 solely to remove references to canceled claims. No new matter has been added.

Without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's position, and solely to expedite prosecution, claims 1 - 5 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that this Application is now in condition for allowance.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 50-1794.

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Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail on 3/4/05 in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22813-1450

Attorney for Applicants